GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4103
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2002
FORTIFICATION OF STAPLE FOOD
VINAY KUMAR SORAKE

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government would propose to initiate efforts to fortify staple foods like wheat flour, sugar, edible oils and milk for supply through public distribution system for their optimum utilisation;

(b) if so, the developmental efforts that have been undertaken in this regard so far;

(c) whether the Central Food Technological Research Institute has developed fortified food formulations;

(d) the details of the CFTRI technologies that have been commercially exploited;

(e) whether fortified cereal formulations will be ideal for nutritious programmes mid-day meal to combat infant malnutrition; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SH KRISHNAM RAJU)

(a): No, Sir.

(b): Does not arise.

(c)&(d): Yes, Sir. CFTRI has developed formulations for supplementary nutritive foodssuch as energy food and malted weaning food. CFTRI has also developed technology and process to fortify wheat flour at the level of roller flour mills and plate mills (chakki). Formulation of fortified bakery products like bread and biscuits, containing standardized levels of fortificant minerals and vitamins were developed. Similarly fortified atta was used in preparation of traditional and staple foods like chapatti, puri and parotta. Formulation of fortified vermicelli (semiya) was also developed.

CFTRI technologies on energy food and malted weaning food and nutritious biscuit havebeen commercially exploited by a few State Government undertakings and a number of private entrepreneurs, for nutrition programmes. Also, CFTRI technology on fortified food products was commercially exploited, by large bakery manufacturing companies in production of `Nutro biscuits`.

(e)&(f): Yes, Sir. Processed cereal based food formulations or supplementary foods are currently being used for nutrition programmes, such as the Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) programme and has an exceedingly high potential.